

PRECEPT
UPON
PRECEPT®

Jeremiah

PART 1

YOU'VE FORSAKEN ME:
REPENT AND RETURN

PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT®
JEREMIAH
PART 1
YOU'VE FORSAKEN ME: REPENT AND RETURN

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PAGE **LESSONS**

1	LESSON ONE: Jeremiah 1-2
21	LESSON TWO: Jeremiah 3-4
37	LESSON THREE: Jeremiah 5-6
45	LESSON FOUR: Jeremiah 7-9
55	LESSON FIVE: Jeremiah 10-12
63	LESSON SIX: Jeremiah 13-15
73	LESSON SEVEN: Jeremiah 16-18
85	LESSON EIGHT: Jeremiah 19-21
93	LESSON NINE: Jeremiah 22-24

APPENDIX

111	Jeremiah Observation Worksheets
207	“Jeremiah, a Man Appointed by God”
209	“Jeremiah at a Glance”
211	Map of Israel
213	Map of Nations Surrounding Israel
215	Map of Jerusalem
217	“The Rulers and Prophets of Jeremiah’s Time”

HELPFUL STUDY TOOLS

ARTHUR, KAY; ARTHUR, DAVID; DE LACY, PETE

How to Study Your Bible

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 1994/2010

The New Inductive Study Bible—New American Standard Bible

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 2000

Hebrew Word Study Tools

(The following is a list of helpful Hebrew Word Study Tools:)

HARRIS, R. LAIRD; ARCHER, GLEASON L. JR.; WALTKE, BRUCE K.

Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament

Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1980

RICHARDS, LAWRENCE O.

Expository Dictionary of Bible Words

Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1985

RECOMMENDED COMMENTARIES

GAEBELEIN, FRANK E.

The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Volume 6

Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishers, 1990

SMITH, JAMES E.

Old Testament Survey Series, The Books of History

Joplin, Missouri: College Press Publishing Company, 1995

RECOMMENDED SOFTWARE

Logos Bible Software

Powerful search engines and up to 4,000 electronic Bible study resources (commentaries, lexicons, Bible dictionaries etc.) make it fast and easy to do simple and complex searches of multiple sources, then pull materials together for orderly presentation—excellent for word and topical studies based on English or original Hebrew and Greek. Available at www.logos.com.

LESSON ONE

Chapters One and Two

THIS LESSON INCORPORATES The following located in the Appendix:
Observation Worksheets of Jeremiah 1–2, 52
“Jeremiah, a Man Appointed by God” chart
“Jeremiah at a Glance” chart
“Map of Israel”
“Map of Nations Surrounding Israel”
“The Rulers and Prophets of Jeremiah’s Time” chart
Cross-references

A Nation . . .

God is very clear in His Word: neither Israel nor any other country can walk in unfaithfulness to God and go unpunished (Ezekiel 14:12-20).

A Message . . .

The message is hard, but God’s heart is not judgment—it’s repentance. At any moment, God can turn bad situations around. But *we* have to listen!

Like their neighbors, God’s people in Jeremiah’s day preferred the message of “Peace, peace,” not realizing they were at war with God!

A Man . . .

Jeremiah was one of the most vulnerable and personal Old Testament prophets. His prayers, struggles, questions, disappointments, doubts, and tears will show you how to walk more honestly and, as a result, more intimately with God. Through Jeremiah you will see how to serve God in the faithful, though often difficult, exercise of the gifts and ministry He has given each of us.

May we have eyes to see . . . ears to hear.

DAY
ONE

As you study Jeremiah, know that God is going to hammer home truth until the nail sinks deep into the heart of the matter. God is not going to let up. Remember that you need to persevere, to keep going because you need this message. You need to continuously apply and share what you learn with those God brings into your path because the future of your nation is at stake—your future and the future of your loved ones.

1. Part 1 of Jeremiah will take us through the first twenty-four chapters. Your first assignment is to make a commitment to these nine weeks of study—do your homework, come to discussion group, persevere to the end. Write your commitment down in your own words. If you have conditions, “ifs” or “buts,” list them—just make sure you can say them aloud to God.

2. Our first lesson will cover the first two chapters of Jeremiah. Let’s begin our initial observations by reading through the first chapter simply to get an understanding of its general content. You’ll find a set of **Observation Worksheets** in the Appendix of this book. Observation Worksheets are printouts of the texts we’re studying, double-spaced and with wide margins to make them easy to read and mark. When you finish reading Jeremiah 1, write down what this chapter seems to be about in one sentence.

3. Now let’s observe the text more closely. Start by asking questions, interrogating the text like a reporter or investigator using the **5 Ws and H** questions: *who, what, when, where, why and how*. **Let’s begin with people—the WHO—the easiest to see.** Read Jeremiah 1 again and mark every reference to *Jeremiah* and *God*, including pronouns. Color *Jeremiah* in one color, possibly orange. (We don’t recommend marking Jeremiah in every chapter, but it’s helpful in chapter 1 where we are given specific information about the man.) There is a **Key Word Bookmark** on the back cover of your Precept book which you can refer to for suggested marking for frequently used words such as *God*. When you finish marking *Jeremiah* and *God*:

- c. *gods*. (You can use a big black **I**). Later we will mark *idol* the same way. Idolatry is an important theme.
5. Look at each marking and then note what you learn from the text about each key word or phrase you marked. This is where you discover truth, gain further knowledge. This is where your theology increases—from gathering information on various things the Lord God wants you to know!
- For instance, look at where you marked *nations* (*kingdoms*). What did you learn about them? List your insights below or in the margin of your Observation Worksheet. Everything you write will answer a **5 Ws and H** question, so keep asking them as you go.
6. According to what you observed in Jeremiah 1, are the nations important and why?

Congratulations. You're off to a good start. We'll call it a day, but as we do, think about what you've learned, the truth you have already discovered for yourself simply by observing the text! You've learned about Jeremiah—a man the Lord Himself commissioned to be His spokesman. The rest of this week, you're going to see that God has a work for you too. Get ready!

DAY
TWO

1. Remember the 5 Ws and H questions we talked about yesterday? Read through Jeremiah 1 again and then write out the **WHAT** of this chapter. What is it about? What is happening? We know you summarized *what* the chapter was about after reading it through once, but how do you see it now?

2. **Who, what, WHEN. . . .**

Marking references to time is a good habit. Time is indicated in many different ways: by words like *month* and *year*, by events like the annual feasts, and by sequencing terms like *before*, *then*, *after*, *until*. Each time phrase is significant and often vital to understanding the progression of events, so don't neglect them; mark them.

See the front of the card from the back cover for marking tips. You can put a clock over or a green circle around a time word and then a green squiggly line under the rest of the reference to time.

For instance you can mark the first reference in verse 2 like this:

In the thirteenth year of his reign . . .

- a. Now read through Jeremiah 1 again and mark all the time references.
- b. Does Jeremiah 1 give any clues to **WHEN** the events listed are happening? It does! Write out your answer below. Then look at "The Rulers and Prophets of Jeremiah's Time" in the Appendix.
- c. Color-code each of the kings in verses 2 and 3. Since these are all kings of Judah, you might put a blue box around each of them, then give each one a distinct color inside the box. (If you have done courses from our Kings and Prophets series and already have markings for these kings, you may want to use your markings.) Put these kings on your Key Word Bookmark and continue marking them throughout Jeremiah. This will help you put the chapters into context historically.

3. We are going to fully explore the **WHEN** of Jeremiah later, but first let's get the major **Ws** answered. **WHERE? Where is the event happening, where will it happen, where are the people from?** Get the point?
 - a. Read through Jeremiah 1 and mark the *wheres* (geographical locations). See your bookmark for a marking suggestion.
 - b. When you mark a **“where” you don't know**, it's a good idea to look at a map. Look at the “Map of Israel” in the Appendix and find Anathoth. It's about four miles from Jerusalem.

4. You probably saw yesterday that some of the **WHOs** were nations or kingdoms from the north, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and other cities of Judah. So now we've connected the **WHO** with the **WHERE**. But in verses 15-19 you run into the pronouns *they* and *them*. Understanding who or what pronouns refer to sometimes takes a little thinking. But the good news is that context is “king”—it rules over interpretation. So all you need to do is read the surrounding verses (and think) to discover the answers.
 - a. Read Jeremiah 1:14-19 again, paying careful attention to “they” and “them” each time they occur. Then answer the following:
 - 1) Who will evil break forth on?

 - 2) What is the evil? Who are the “they” who set up their thrones at Jerusalem?

 - 3) Who will God pronounce judgments against in verse 16? Who has forsaken Him? Who might “dismay” Jeremiah when he preaches a message of judgment? Who will fight against Jeremiah?

-
- b. Is the “they” in verse 15 the same as the “they” and “them” in verses 16–19? How do you know?
5. Now the last of the **5 Ws**: **WHY?** *By the way, the text may not answer all the 5 Ws and H, so don't force it.* Does Jeremiah 1 give you any clues regarding:
- a. why God appointed Jeremiah as a prophet?
- b. why He commands Jeremiah to speak to the “them” of verse 17?
- c. why “they” in verse 19 will fight against Jeremiah?
6. And of course there is that last question: **HOW?** Watch for *hows* as we move through Jeremiah.

Great! You are off to an excellent start. Once you get used to continually asking the 5 Ws and H questions, you are going to be amazed at all you learn, all you discover on your own. It's awesome!

This exercise was to get you started if you are new to Precept. You faithful “old-timers” may have left us during this time and observed the text on your own. However, may we suggest you make yourself available to new students to help them see how doable and valuable inductive study is.

The **inductive method** is to discover truth for yourself by going directly to the text before other sources, **observing** the text (seeing what it says), **interpreting** it (understanding what it means), and **applying** it to your life.

Application is often simply adjusting your beliefs to or aligning your character and behavior with the plumb line of God's Word. This produces **transformation** as many of you know.

In fact, those of you who have experienced the transforming effect of inductive study wouldn't study the Word any way other than inductively, would you?

7. Jeremiah is about events that happened to Israel more than two and a half millennia ago. But if you're not Jewish, what does any of this have to do with you? Does God have a purpose for your life as He did for Jeremiah's? Look up Jeremiah 1:5 and the following verses, read them, and write down what you learn about how they relate to you.
 - a. Ephesians 1:3-5; 2:10

- b. John 15:16

8. Finally, you will find a "Jeremiah at a Glance" chart in the Appendix. You will see chapter numbers and then a place to write down a theme (the main event or teaching) for each chapter. Write (in pencil) the theme of Jeremiah 1. The purpose of the At a Glance chart is to provide a compact visual chapter-by-chapter summary of the book you can return to for easy reference.

9. Now, if you have time, think through all you've observed in your study today. More application will come later. Right now you need to make sure you are getting all the facts: gaining knowledge about God, Jeremiah, and what God is up to. Whatever helps you review and remember what you've just observed, do it. This may mean just think, jot down some notes, or write a prayer to the Lord with respect to this study.

Great! You should be excited about what you have seen on your own. Don't be concerned about what you have not seen or do not understand. Observation is like peeling an onion—you do one layer at a time! So don't cry. Put the onion down. We'll get more tomorrow. You are going to be amazed at all you discover on your own.

DAY THREE

1. "The word of the Lord came to me" sounds awesome, doesn't it? And important! **"Word of the Lord" is a key repeated phrase in Jeremiah**, so add it to your bookmark. You can mark it a special way so it pops out on the page. Now read Jeremiah 1 and mark it.
2. Do you envy Jeremiah when you read that God gave him His Word directly? Do you wish it were you? Of course it would be easier if God *didn't* tell you that people won't want to hear your message and will oppose you!

Yet do you realize that God has given His Word to you directly—the Bible! What you have is even better than what Jeremiah had, because you have the complete Word of God, the recorded revelation of God to man, preserved so you can have everything you need for life and godliness. That's *way* more than Jeremiah had!

And as God chose Jeremiah for a purpose—to get out His message—so He's called you to do the same. Look up the following verses and note what you learn that relates to you if you've been born again into the family of God.

5. Before we go any further into Jeremiah, let's put ourselves into **context** historically.
 - a. **Context** is the setting: *con* is with—and so context is that which goes with the text. Context can be historical, geographical, cultural, grammatical. You already looked at the grammatical setting in the assignment you did discerning *they* and *them* in Jeremiah 1:15-16. Remember, we also pointed out that context is king; it rules interpretation. Therefore, whenever you want to make sure you are handling God's Word accurately, check out the context.
 - b. Review what you learned on Day Two about when the Word of the Lord came to Jeremiah. When in Israel's history did it come? List your insights—you'll remember what you write out. Note when the Word first came, when it occurs, how long it lasts, and when it ends. Also, say aloud what you write. Hearing something helps you remember, too.

6. Study the chart, "The Rulers and Prophets of Jeremiah's Time" found in the Appendix. Find the kings' names mentioned in Jeremiah 1. Color each king's name the same color you used on your Key Word Bookmark. Note from the chart that some of the kings have more than one name. Add these to your bookmark beside their names used in Jeremiah.

7. Read 2 Chronicles 34 in your Bible and mark the various years of Josiah's reign. Then list them below chronologically, noting the major events that happened in those years.

When you list Josiah’s eighteenth year, record the major things that occurred in that year. Don’t get lost in the details and miss the big picture. Also, as you list the various years of Josiah’s reign, insert the time of Jeremiah’s ministry into the chronological sequence.

8. Finally, read Jeremiah 52:1-16 (the entire chapter if you have time). You will find Jeremiah 52 at the end of your Observation Worksheets. As you read it, remember we are looking at the historical context—the time period of Jeremiah’s ministry; therefore, mark just four things: time, geographical locations, *Zedekiah*, and *Babylon*. You might put a big red ***B*** over *Babylon or Chaldeans (another name for Babylonians)* and shade it black. When you finish, answer the following questions:
 - a. What year does Nebuchadnezzar begin to besiege Jerusalem? Who is ruling?
 - b. Why does Nebuchadnezzar do this?
 - c. What happens to Zedekiah?
 - d. According to Jeremiah 52:12-16, what happens in Jerusalem and to Jerusalem when Nebuzaradan (the captain of King Nebuchadnezzar’s bodyguard) comes to Jerusalem?

9. Let's go back to Jeremiah 1 and look at the nations a little more closely.
 - a. What verses in Jeremiah 1 show you that God appointed Jeremiah not only to be a prophet to Judah but also to the nations?

 - b. From Jeremiah 1, who are the nations coming against?

 - c. Mark *wickedness* in verse 16 in a distinctive color or way. Some of us color it brown, the same way we color *sin*, *iniquity*, and *transgress*. Add this to your bookmark.

 - d. What is Judah's wickedness?

10. Finally today, how can you apply what you learned about God from Jeremiah 1? How will this help you live?

Thank you so much for joining us for this study. If you're determined to stick with this study, you'll be truly awed by what you learn and how relevant it is to the days we're living in. Your knowledge of God and His ways will deepen, making you far more confident to deal with the future—no matter what comes. Remember, when you know God, you are able not only to be strong but also to take action—to “display strength and take action” (Daniel 11:32b). Now that's hero stuff!

DAY
FOUR

Today we start observing Jeremiah 2. Since it is a long chapter, we are going to work on it for the next two days. Our emphasis today will be to observe the chapter as a whole, and then tomorrow we will start analyzing it. Just know this: the more you observe, the more you'll "get it"—know it, understand it. It helps to read through the text as many times as possible.

1. When you observe a chapter, do the following:
 - a. Search out answers to the **5 Ws and H questions** as you did for Jeremiah 1; mark all time phrases (**whens**) and all geographical locations (**wheres**). Look at the people (**whos**)—see what you learn about them.
 - b. Mark key words.
 - c. As you observe the text, make sure you “hang on God’s every word.” Remember, Jesus told the devil “man shall not live on bread alone but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God” (Matthew 4:4).
 - 1) Pray as you study. Keep seeking God’s help—the Spirit’s enlightenment. The Spirit of God is your “in-house” tutor.
 - 2) When you see *I, me, they, them, you, your, we, our*, make sure you know who is speaking or being referred to. The context will tell you.
 - 3) Until you become familiar with the geography of the region, check the maps in the Appendix to see where each place is. The “Map of Nations Surrounding Israel” will be helpful for chapter 2.
 - 4) Observe the flow of thought. Look at the text paragraph by paragraph. How does God take you through the text?
 - 5) Continually ask God how to live out what you’re learning day by day. He delights in such prayers . . . and answers them.
2. Add the following key words and phrases to your Key Word Bookmark and mark them as you observe Jeremiah 2. Check your bookmark for ideas for marking.
 - a. *the land of Israel*
 - b. *people* (when it refers to Israel, God’s people; however, marking pronouns might be too much)
 - c. *love*
 - d. *forsake*—a downward orange arrow
 - e. *evil*
 - f. *anger* (God’s)
 - g. *prophets* (other than Jeremiah)
 - h. *harlot (harlotry)* with a big red H
 - i. *shame, ashamed*—you might color it red like someone blushing, and put a slash through it like this / if it is *not ashamed*

3. When you finish, analyze what you have observed and learned. List what you learn from marking key words.
4. Record the chapter theme for Jeremiah 2 on the “Jeremiah at a Glance” chart.

Have a great study time, modern-day Jeremiahs! Remember, people desperately need to hear the Word of the Lord and you are His spokesperson (2 Timothy 4:1-4).

DAY
FIVE

As you begin today’s study, read through Jeremiah 2 again.

1. Follow the progression of reasoning. Who does God speak to? Give the verse(s) that supports your answer.

2. Now, analyze the chapter paragraph by paragraph. Write out, as briefly as possible, a summary statement of each paragraph.

2:1-3

2:4-8

2:9-13

2:14-19

2:20-25

2:26-28

c. John 4:13-14

d. John 7:37-39

e. Revelation 22:17

6. Read Jeremiah 2:13-19.

a. How does Jeremiah 2:14-19 expand on Jeremiah 2:13?

b. What is the problem? What are the people turning to?

c. Do you see similar behavior in your nation?

d. What about you? What do you run to in times of “thirst,” need, want?

7. Observe how the Lord illustrates their sin.
 - a. How does He open Jeremiah 2? What's the picture? God's Word will expand on this even more in chapter 3.

 - b. How does He describe their behavior in 2:20-25?

 - c. How do the people respond to the Lord's admonition in 2:22-25?

 - d. Do you know people like this today? Do you realize the true consequences of walking this way? Do you think they, or you, can get away with it?

 - e. How can you use this chapter to witness and minister to people today?

8. The phrase "In the time of your trouble" is used twice, in verses 27-28. Explain this phrase; what's God's point?

-
9. Look at verses 29-37: “O generation, heed the word of the Lord.” Does this remind you of our times? Are we sinning and saying, “I have not sinned”?
- a. Where does this lead? What’s going to happen to Judah?

 - b. Does this happen? You’ve read the last chapter of Jeremiah. What did you see?

 - c. Do you think the people believed “you will go out with your hands on your head”—that is, into captivity? Why or why not?

 - d. And what do you think people think today? Do you think they realize a holy God will bring upon them the consequences of forsaking Him? Walking their own way? Living without even thinking about God? What makes you think that?

 - e. What about you?

How unimaginable! Israel, God’s chosen witness to the world, has become a nation of hypocrites! They say they love God, but they disobey His Word. They say they worship the true God, but in practice they worship idols. They say they are obedient, yet they refuse to confess and repent of their sin. Oh, beloved, have we, the Church, become hypocrites too? Now think about what you’ve learned this week. How can you use it in interacting with people? Why don’t you pray and ask God for opportunities to share these truths with people who need to hear them . . . who might truly listen and turn to God. Jot down your insights.

10. Feel free to consult your commentaries if you have time. However, please don’t read beyond Jeremiah 2; you don’t want to spoil your joy of discovery. Record pertinent insights below.

May this study help you say with the psalmist, “I have not turned aside from Your ordinances, for You Yourself have taught me” (Psalm 119:102).

JEREMIAH 1

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

- THE words of Jeremiah the son of Hilkiyah, of the priests who were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin,
- 2 to whom the word of the LORD came in the days of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah, in the thirteenth year of his reign.
 - 3 It came also in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, until the end of the eleventh year of Zedekiah the son of Josiah, king of Judah, until the exile of Jerusalem in the fifth month.
 - 4 Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,
 - 5 “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
And before you were born I consecrated you;
I have appointed you a prophet to the nations.”
 - 6 Then I said, “Alas, Lord GOD!
Behold, I do not know how to speak,
Because I am a youth.”
 - 7 But the LORD said to me,
“Do not say, ‘I am a youth,’
Because everywhere I send you, you shall go,
And all that I command you, you shall speak.
 - 8 “Do not be afraid of them,
For I am with you to deliver you,” declares the LORD.
 - 9 Then the LORD stretched out His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me,
“Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.
 - 10 “See, I have appointed you this day over the nations and over the kingdoms,
To pluck up and to break down,
To destroy and to overthrow,
To build and to plant.”

- 11 The word of the LORD came to me saying, “What do you see, Jeremiah?” And I said, “I see a rod of an almond tree.”
- 12 Then the LORD said to me, “You have seen well, for I am watching over My word to perform it.”
- 13 The word of the LORD came to me a second time saying, “What do you see?” And I said, “I see a boiling pot, facing away from the north.”
- 14 Then the LORD said to me, “Out of the north the evil will break forth on all the inhabitants of the land.
- 15 “For, behold, I am calling all the families of the kingdoms of the north,” declares the LORD; “and they will come and they will set each one his throne at the entrance of the gates of Jerusalem, and against all its walls round about and against all the cities of Judah.
- 16 “I will pronounce My judgments on them concerning all their wickedness, whereby they have forsaken Me and have offered sacrifices to other gods, and worshiped the works of their own hands.
- 17 “Now, gird up your loins and arise, and speak to them all which I command you. Do not be dismayed before them, or I will dismay you before them.
- 18 “Now behold, I have made you today as a fortified city and as a pillar of iron and as walls of bronze against the whole land, to the kings of Judah, to its princes, to its priests and to the people of the land.
- 19 “They will fight against you, but they will not overcome you, for I am with you to deliver you,” declares the LORD.

JEREMIAH 2
Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

NOW the word of the LORD came to me saying,

- 2 “Go and proclaim in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD,
“I remember concerning you the devotion of your youth,
The love of your betrothals,
Your following after Me in the wilderness,
Through a land not sown.
- 3 “Israel was holy to the LORD,
The first of His harvest.
All who ate of it became guilty;
Evil came upon them,” declares the LORD.’ ”
- 4 Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the
house of Israel.
- 5 Thus says the LORD,
“What injustice did your fathers find in Me,
That they went far from Me
And walked after emptiness and became empty?
- 6 “They did not say, ‘Where is the LORD
Who brought us up out of the land of Egypt,
Who led us through the wilderness,
Through a land of deserts and of pits,
Through a land of drought and of deep darkness,
Through a land that no one crossed
And where no man dwelt?’
- 7 “I brought you into the fruitful land
To eat its fruit and its good things.
But you came and defiled My land,
And My inheritance you made an abomination.

- 8 “The priests did not say, ‘Where is the LORD?’
And those who handle the law did not know Me;
The rulers also transgressed against Me,
And the prophets prophesied by Baal
And walked after things that did not profit.
- 9 “Therefore I will yet contend with you,” declares the LORD,
“And with your sons’ sons I will contend.
- 10 “For cross to the coastlands of Kittim and see,
And send to Kedar and observe closely
And see if there has been such *a thing* as this!
- 11 “Has a nation changed gods
When they were not gods?
But My people have changed their glory
For that which does not profit.
- 12 “Be appalled, O heavens, at this,
And shudder, be very desolate,” declares the LORD.
- 13 “For My people have committed two evils:
They have forsaken Me,
The fountain of living waters,
To hew for themselves cisterns,
Broken cisterns
That can hold no water.
- 14 “Is Israel a slave? Or is he a homeborn servant?
Why has he become a prey?
- 15 “The young lions have roared at him,
They have roared loudly.
And they have made his land a waste;
His cities have been destroyed, without inhabitant.
- 16 “Also the men of Memphis and Tahpanhes
Have shaved the crown of your head.

- 17 “Have you not done this to yourself
By your forsaking the LORD your God
When He led you in the way?
- 18 “But now what are you doing on the road to Egypt,
To drink the waters of the Nile?
Or what are you doing on the road to Assyria,
To drink the waters of the Euphrates?
- 19 “Your own wickedness will correct you,
And your apostasies will reprove you;
Know therefore and see that it is evil and bitter
For you to forsake the LORD your God,
And the dread of Me is not in you,” declares the Lord GOD of
hosts.
- 20 “For long ago I broke your yoke
And tore off your bonds;
But you said, ‘I will not serve!’
For on every high hill
And under every green tree
You have lain down as a harlot.
- 21 “Yet I planted you a choice vine,
A completely faithful seed.
How then have you turned yourself before Me
Into the degenerate shoots of a foreign vine?
- 22 “Although you wash yourself with lye
And use much soap,
The stain of your iniquity is before Me,” declares the Lord GOD.
- 23 “How can you say, ‘I am not defiled,
I have not gone after the Baals’?
Look at your way in the valley!
Know what you have done!
You are a swift young camel entangling her ways,

- 24 A wild donkey accustomed to the wilderness,
That sniffs the wind in her passion.
In *the time of* her heat who can turn her away?
All who seek her will not become weary;
In her month they will find her.
- 25 “Keep your feet from being unshod
And your throat from thirst;
But you said, ‘It is hopeless!
No! For I have loved strangers,
And after them I will walk.’
- 26 “As the thief is shamed when he is discovered,
So the house of Israel is shamed;
They, their kings, their princes
And their priests and their prophets,
27 Who say to a tree, ‘You are my father,’
And to a stone, ‘You gave me birth.’
For they have turned *their* back to Me,
And not *their* face;
But in the time of their trouble they will say,
‘Arise and save us.’
- 28 “But where are your gods
Which you made for yourself?
Let them arise, if they can save you
In the time of your trouble;
For *according to* the number of your cities
Are your gods, O Judah.
- 29 “Why do you contend with Me?
You have all transgressed against Me,” declares the LORD.
- 30 “In vain I have struck your sons;
They accepted no chastening.
Your sword has devoured your prophets
Like a destroying lion.

- 31 “O generation, heed the word of the LORD.
Have I been a wilderness to Israel,
Or a land of thick darkness?
Why do My people say, ‘We *are free to roam*;
We will no longer come to You’?
- 32 “Can a virgin forget her ornaments,
Or a bride her attire?
Yet My people have forgotten Me
Days without number.
- 33 “How well you prepare your way
To seek love!
Therefore even the wicked women
You have taught your ways.
- 34 “Also on your skirts is found
The lifeblood of the innocent poor;
You did not find them breaking in.
But in spite of all these things,
- 35 Yet you said, ‘I am innocent;
Surely His anger is turned away from me.’
Behold, I will enter into judgment with you
Because you say, ‘I have not sinned.’
- 36 “Why do you go around so much
Changing your way?
Also, you will be put to shame by Egypt
As you were put to shame by Assyria.
- 37 “From this *place* also you will go out
With your hands on your head;
For the LORD has rejected those in whom you trust,
And you will not prosper with them.”

JEREMIAH 52
Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

ZEDEKIAH was twenty-one years old when he became king, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

- 2 He did evil in the sight of the LORD like all that Jehoiakim had done.
- 3 For through the anger of the LORD *this* came about in Jerusalem and Judah until He cast them out from His presence. And Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.
- 4 Now it came about in the ninth year of his reign, on the tenth *day* of the tenth month, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came, he and all his army, against Jerusalem, camped against it and built a siege wall all around it.
- 5 So the city was under siege until the eleventh year of King Zedekiah.
- 6 On the ninth *day* of the fourth month the famine was so severe in the city that there was no food for the people of the land.
- 7 Then the city was broken into, and all the men of war fled and went forth from the city at night by way of the gate between the two walls which *was* by the king's garden, though the Chaldeans were all around the city. And they went by way of the Arabah.
- 8 But the army of the Chaldeans pursued the king and overtook Zedekiah in the plains of Jericho, and all his army was scattered from him.
- 9 Then they captured the king and brought him up to the king of Babylon at Riblah in the land of Hamath, and he passed sentence on him.
- 10 The king of Babylon slaughtered the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, and he also slaughtered all the princes of Judah in Riblah.
- 11 Then he blinded the eyes of Zedekiah; and the king of Babylon bound him with bronze fetters and brought him to Babylon and put him in prison until the day of his death.

- 12 Now on the tenth *day* of the fifth month, which was the nineteenth year of King Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, Nebuzaradan the captain of the bodyguard, who was in the service of the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem.
- 13 He burned the house of the LORD, the king's house and all the houses of Jerusalem; even every large house he burned with fire.
- 14 So all the army of the Chaldeans who *were* with the captain of the guard broke down all the walls around Jerusalem.
- 15 Then Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away into exile some of the poorest of the people, the rest of the people who were left in the city, the deserters who had deserted to the king of Babylon and the rest of the artisans.
- 16 But Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard left some of the poorest of the land to be vinedressers and plowmen.
- 17 Now the bronze pillars which belonged to the house of the LORD and the stands and the bronze sea, which were in the house of the LORD, the Chaldeans broke in pieces and carried all their bronze to Babylon.
- 18 They also took away the pots, the shovels, the snuffers, the basins, the pans and all the bronze vessels which were used in *temple* service.
- 19 The captain of the guard also took away the bowls, the firepans, the basins, the pots, the lampstands, the pans and the drink offering bowls, what was fine gold and what was fine silver.
- 20 The two pillars, the one sea, and the twelve bronze bulls that were under the sea, *and* the stands, which King Solomon had made for the house of the LORD—the bronze of all these vessels was beyond weight.
- 21 As for the pillars, the height of each pillar *was* eighteen cubits, and it *was* twelve cubits in circumference and four fingers in thickness, *and* hollow.
- 22 Now a capital of bronze was on it; and the height of each capital was five cubits, with network and pomegranates upon the capital all around, all of bronze. And the second pillar was like these, including pomegranates.

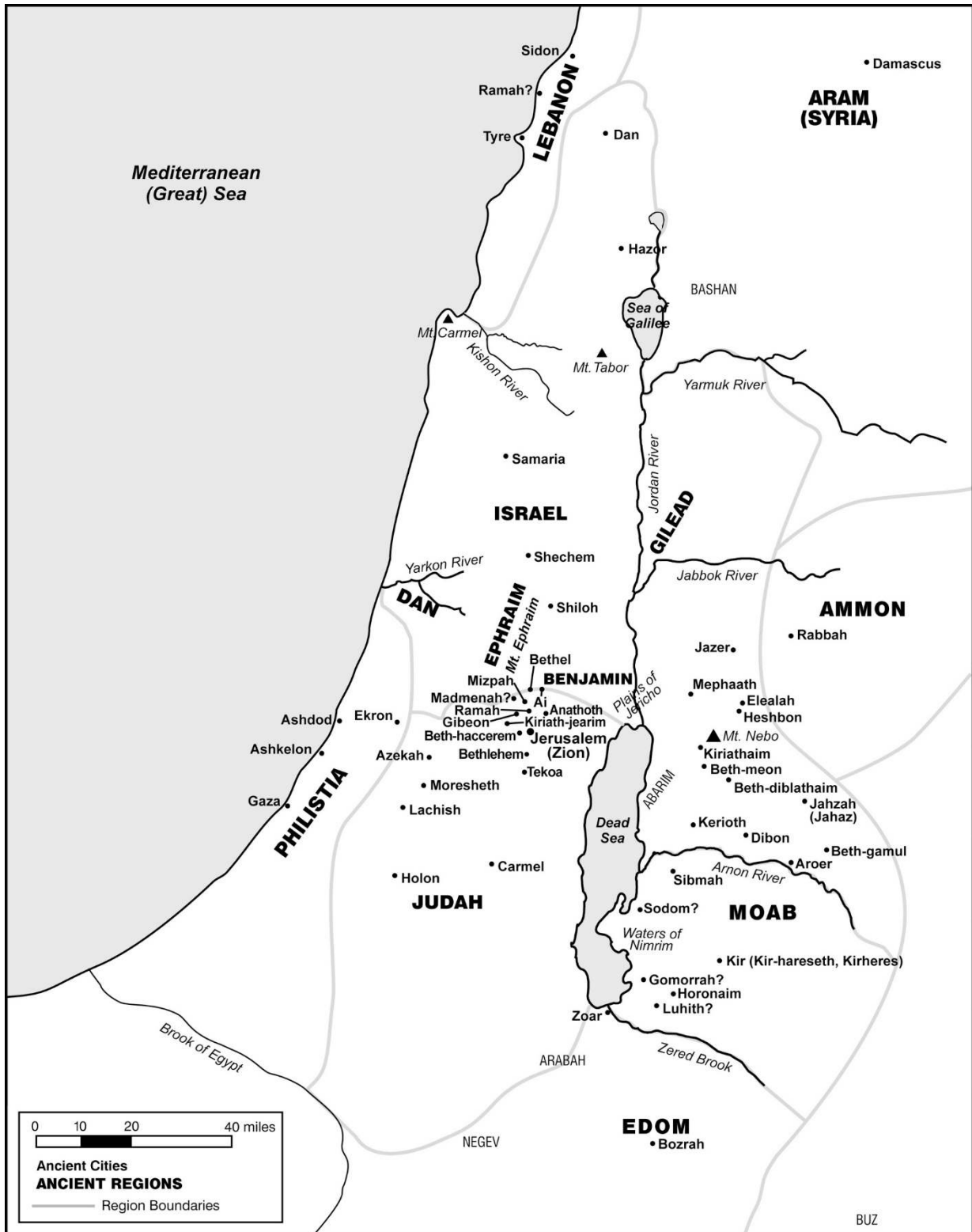
- 23 There were ninety-six exposed pomegranates; all the pomegranates *numbered* a hundred on the network all around.
- 24 Then the captain of the guard took Seraiah the chief priest and Zephaniah the second priest, with the three officers of the temple.
- 25 He also took from the city one official who was overseer of the men of war, and seven of the king's advisers who were found in the city, and the scribe of the commander of the army who mustered the people of the land, and sixty men of the people of the land who were found in the midst of the city.
- 26 Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard took them and brought them to the king of Babylon at Riblah.
- 27 Then the king of Babylon struck them down and put them to death at Riblah in the land of Hamath. So Judah was led away into exile from its land.
- 28 These are the people whom Nebuchadnezzar carried away into exile: in the seventh year 3,023 Jews;
- 29 in the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar 832 persons from Jerusalem;
- 30 in the twenty-third year of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried into exile 745 Jewish people; there were 4,600 persons in all.
- 31 Now it came about in the thirty-seventh year of the exile of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the twenty-fifth of the month, that Evil-merodach king of Babylon, in the *first* year of his reign, showed favor to Jehoiachin king of Judah and brought him out of prison.
- 32 Then he spoke kindly to him and set his throne above the thrones of the kings who *were* with him in Babylon.
- 33 So Jehoiachin changed his prison clothes, and had his meals in the king's presence regularly all the days of his life.
- 34 For his allowance, a regular allowance was given him by the king of Babylon, a daily portion all the days of his life until the day of his death.

JEREMIAH, A MAN APPOINTED BY GOD

JEREMIAH AT A GLANCE

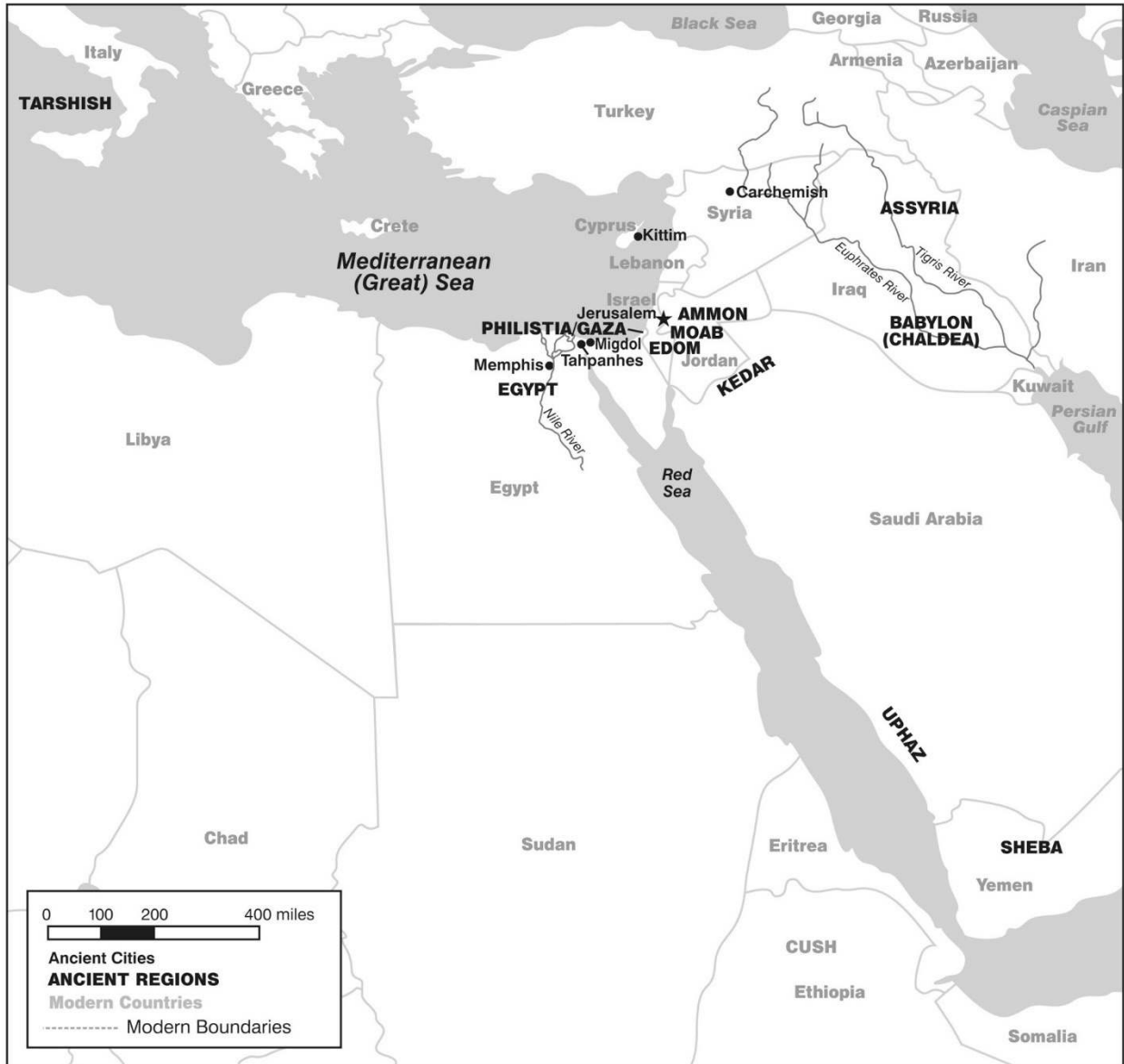
	Segment Divisions	Chapter Themes
Author:		1
		2
		3
		4
Date:		5
		6
		7
Purpose:		8
		9
		10
Key Words:		11
		12
		13
		14
		15
		16
		17
		18
		19
		20
		21
		22
		23
		24

Jeremiah Part 1
Map of Israel



Jeremiah Part 1

Map of Nations Surrounding Israel



Jeremiah Part 1

The Rulers and Prophets of Jeremiah's Time

The Rulers and Prophets of Jeremiah's Time

